## Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center



## School Program Brochure 2013–2014 Pre K–12th Grade

Reservations Begin Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2013

Call 314-301-1500 for reservations. Classes fill up quickly, so please call early to reserve your date.

Programs are offered Wednesday–Friday, Sept. 26, 2013–May 16, 2014. (No programs are offered in January.)

We help people discover nature!

Pre K-K programs are 1 ½ hours. 1st and 2nd grade programs are 2 hours. Both include indoor and outdoor components. We suggest one adult chaperone per four students.

pre K-K

Sept. 26-Oct. 18, 2013 and April 2-May 16, 2014

## Feeling Froggy!

How do frogs grow? How are they different from other animals? Discover the answers to these questions through mimicry, live animals, and a pond study.

## **Bird Buddies**

Sept. 26–Dec. 13, 2013 and Feb. 5–May 16, 2014

Explore the characteristics of birds through hands-on activity and mimicry. Go on a bird hike and make a pair of binoculars to take home.

## I Like to Move It, Move It!

Take a close look at animal movement and behavior. Learn how animals use different parts of their bodies to function and survive in the wild. Dramatic play, live animals, and a hike will be a part of this "moving" experience!

Pre K-2nd Grade
Sept. 26-Oct. 18, 2013 and
April 2-May 16, 2014

## **Budding Biologists 1 Hour Hike**

What do biologists study? Explore outdoors and learn to distinguish between living and non-living things. Work as field scientists to examine the forest floor.

# Sept. 26–Oct.18, 2013 and April 2–May 16, 2014 $Fre K-2nd \ Grade$

## **Insect Inspectors**

Did that critter have six legs or eight? Was it a spider or an insect? Catch and observe all kinds of insects living right under your nose.

#### Let's Pollinate!

Flowers can't walk, so how do they spread to different places? Pollinators! Learn about the stages of plant growth and some of the pollinators that make it happen.

## Get a Life Cycle!

How do life cycles differ within the animal world? Explore metamorphosis and growth through the fascinating lives of insects, amphibians, and birds. Outdoors, search for animals in different life stages.

Sept. 26-Dec.13, 2013 and Feb. 5-May 16, 2014

## Furry, Feathered, Scaly, or Smooth?

Want to learn what animals feel like and how their outer layers keep them protected? We've got you covered! Warm up to the world of animal coverings and the special adaptations that help them survive in their environments.

## **Mammalogy for Minis**

Walk in the tracks of a deer.... burrow like a mole! Become a different mammal by observing and behaving like several Missouri mammals. Explore mammal traits and hike to find some furry residents of Powder Valley. Unless noted, programs are 2 hours and include both indoor and outdoor components.

We suggest one adult chaperone per six students (3–5 grade) or eight students (6–8 grade).

3rd-5th Grade

Sept. 26–Oct. 18, 2013 and April 2–May 16, 2014

## **Arthropod Investigators**

Did you know that all insects are arthropods, but not all arthropods are insects? We'll introduce animal classification as we investigate each arthropod class. Learn about the special adaptations of arthropods and how to identify them by using a simple dichotomous key.

#### **Pollinator Power!**

Without a little help from their friends, the pollinators, most plants can't reproduce. We'll delve into pollination, parts of flowers, types of seeds, and seed dispersal through games and hands-on exploration. Outside, we'll see what's happening in the garden and try and catch some pollinators in action!

## Predator-Prey: What's for Dinner?

Every animal species has its own way of finding its dinner. Some do this while they also avoid being dinner for someone else. Discover various adaptations which determine how and on whom different animals dine.

#### Sept. 26–Oct. 18, 2013 and April 2–May 16, 2014

#### Creatures of Habitat

A habitat provides food, water, shelter, and space for the animals living there. It sounds nice and easy, but life in the wild is tough. Learn how animals use their diverse adaptations to survive in their habitats. Be prepared to explore the habitats of Powder Valley.

**April 2–May 16, 2014** 

#### **Food Chain Reaction**

Nature twists an intricate web, and every species is accounted for, from the smallest microbe to the largest predator. Discover some of the many relationships in the food web, and become familiar with consumers, producers, and decomposers, as you classify organisms by their roles in the food chain.

All Grades

Sept. 26–Dec. 13, 2013 and Feb. 5–May 16, 2014

#### **One Hour Seasonal Hikes**

Discover the seasons and what's happening in the forest through observations and hands-on outdoor activities. Each hike is unique as students observe the natural changes occurring throughout the year.

6th-8th Grade

## Sept. 26-Oct. 18, 2013 and April 2-May 16, 2014

#### Forest Explorations

What do forests mean to you.... or to wildlife? Discover the ins and outs of trees, how they work together to form an ecosystem and how to identify several common Missouri trees. Test observation and judgment skills to determine the health of Powder Valley's trees using the Missouri Forestkeeper's tree observation methods.

Sept. 26-Dec.13, 2013 and Feb. 5-May 16, 2014

## **Behavior Biologists**

Limited to Single or Double Groups (This programs is 2 ½ hours)

Gain first-hand experience to all steps of the Scientific Method! Jump into the shoes of a Research Biologist to study birds of prey and their menu of critters. Conduct an animal behavior study to see how wildlife responds to those hungry predators of the sky.

**April 2–May 16, 2014** 

## **Pond and Stream Ecology**

Celebrate Missouri's waters by studying pond and stream ecology. Compare the health of a pond and a stream by assessing the biotic and abiotic factors. Sample the macro-invertebrates and perform water testing. The majority of this program will be conducted outdoors.

## LARGE GROUP PROGRAM OPTIONS

#### **Double**

Group Size: Minimum time scheduled:

Pre K–K: 21–40 students; Pre K–K:  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours;  $1^{st}$ – $12^{th}$ : 26–50 students.  $1^{st}$ – $12^{th}$ : 2 hours

#### **Triple**

Group Size Minimum time scheduled:

Pre K–K: 41–60 students;  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours

1st-12th: 51-75 students. **Includes one teacher led** 

rotation.

#### Quadruple

Group Size Minimum time scheduled:

Pre K-K: 61–80 students; 3 hours

1st-12th: 76-100 students. Includes two teacher led

rotations.

## 9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade programs available upon request.

Please have students dress for the weather. Thank you.



Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center supports Discover Nature Schools. To schedule your Discover Nature School field trip

contact Catherine McGrane, assistant nature center manager, at 314-301-1506 ext. 4218, or Catherine.McGrane@mdc.mo.gov.

## Contact your local Conservation Education Consultant to learn more about Discover Nature Schools.

## Nature Schools. County Conservation Education

Consultant

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